

REMARKS

Claim 18 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) for informalities. Claims 9 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-7, 10-13, 15, 17 and 19-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Number JP 04-151711 to Mitsuhiro (hereinafter “Mitsuhiro”). Claims 1-13 and 15-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 4,908,612 to Bromley et al. (hereinafter “Bromley”). Claims 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsuhiro.

For the Examiner’s convenience and reference, Applicants’ remarks are presented in substantially the same order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action. Please note that the following remarks are not intended to be an exhaustive enumeration of the distinctions between any cited references and the claimed invention. Rather, the distinctions identified and discussed below are presented solely by way of example to illustrate some of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited references.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of November 7, 2006. Applicants have canceled claims 9 and 16 as discussed. Applicants have also amended independent claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 25 with the limitations discussed in the document 10634287ProposedAmdt.doc. The amendments to claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 25 include the limitations of canceled claims 5, 6, 13, 15, 23 and 24, and are fully supported by the specification.

Response to objections to claims for informalities.

Claim 18 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) for informalities. Applicants have amended claim 18 as requested.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 9 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants have canceled claims 9 and 16.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 1-7, 10-13, 15, 17 and 19-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mitsuhiro. Claims 1-13 and 15-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bromley. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Independent claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 25 are amended with the limitations of claims 5, 6, 13, 15, 23 and 24 of a make list and a block list, and a limitation that "...the combination of key codes corresponds to a combination of keys being pressed simultaneously..." Claim 1 as amended. See also claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 25. Because Mitsuhiro and Bromley do not teach these limitations as discussed in the telephone interview of November 7, Applicants submit that claims 1, 12, 19, 21, 22, and 25 are allowable.

Claims 5, 6, 13, 15, 23, and 24 are canceled. Applicants submit that claims 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 17, 18, and 20 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Response to rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsuhiro. Applicants submit that claims 8 and 18 are allowable as depending from allowable claims.

Should additional information be required regarding the traversal of the rejections of the claims enumerated above, Examiner is respectfully asked to notify Applicants of such need. If any impediments to the prompt allowance of the claims can be resolved by a telephone conversation, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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